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Heads For
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Showdown**

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NATIONAL REPORT

Confab Marks Anniversary Of 1964 Civil Rights Act

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the Joint Center for Political Studies will sponsor a conference June 28 and 29 at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of the conference is to review the impact of the Act and to examine the remaining challenges in fulfilling its goals.

The scheduled speakers include Coretta Scott King; the conference's chairperson; Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and Vernon Jordan, former executive director of the National Urban League.

St. Louis Group Sues City To Register Voters In Line For Welfare, Unemployment

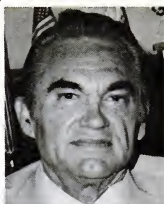
A St. Louis citizens' group recently took the city Election Board to federal court arguing for permission to register prospective voters in unemployment lines and welfare offices.

Said Bruce Goldstein, of the National Lawyers Guild, "We think that access to the electoral process is being denied with particular emphasis on the low-income and less-well educated citizens."

Goldstein represents Jean Townshend, 34, who is not registered to vote. Ms. Townshend, who has been unemployed for the past six years, testified that she tried to register by walking 45 minutes to a local library but

Alabama's Gov. Wallace Calls For Unity Of Races

Alabama Gov. George Wallace, who during his first term as chief of state in 1963 made his infamous "stand in the doorway" of the



George Wallace

University of Alabama in Birmingham to block the entry of two Black students, recently issued a proclamation making June 10, 1984 Race Unity Day.

Wallace said he issued the proclamation "in the prayerful hope that Americans everywhere will take this time to rededicate themselves to eliminate barriers to race unity." Ironically enough, the reformed segregationist had vowed in his 1963 inauguration address: "Segregation now, segregation tomorrow and segregation forever."

found the building closed. She said she would be able to register if election commissioners permitted it at the welfare office or her church.

Election board officials charge that expanding the registration system by allowing special-interest groups to register voters would open the door to voter fraud.

The lawsuit is the first of several designed to open the polls to poor and minority voters. Similar suits are planned in at least 14 states.

Jesse Jackson Heads For Convention Showdown

Two Blacks, a Mr. Outside and a Mr. Inside, will draw the biggest press at July's Democratic National Convention in San Francisco:

Mr. Outside will be presidential contender Jesse Jackson, whose eight-month nationwide campaign has established a new landmark in American politics. Collecting little more than 300 delegates because of handicaps against long shot candidates, the PUSH president will become the key politician as he heads for convention showdown.

Mr. Inside is one of the shrewdest and yet compassionate politicians who now heads the

Congressman Julian Dixon (l) will have a key role as Jackson goes to San Francisco to engage in crucial battle with Gary Hart and Walter Mondale, who held their last debate in Los Angeles. Dixon will preside over committee that outlines the rules.



Before California primary, Jackson campaigned to win delegates.

Congressional Black Caucus. As chairman of the convention's Rules Committee, 50-year-old Rep. Julian Dixon (D., Calif.) will oversee "the most substantive rules debate" in the Democratic party's history.

Thus, the stage is set for the



Jackson Plans Convention Fight For "Locked Out" People

two men to move into the national spotlight as oldtime entrenched politicians grope with the problems of reform that threaten to tear the party into bits.

Both men are able, experienced and each has his own personality. Jackson is gregarious, and charismatic, and an electrifying speaker. On the other hand, Dixon is a quiet, humble, and hardworking strategist. Dixon works long hours, frequently staying in his Capitol Hill office until 11 p.m. He is described as "a low key, mellow" Californian whose hobby is listening to jazz, with little attention paid to attending parties and receptions.

What Jackson says and does could well determine whether the so-called "party of the people." can organize, unite and leave the harbor city with a fighting spirit to defeat President

Reagan in the fall.

No Black candidate has ever achieved such a record of stepping into the center ring and demonstrating what can be done to bring respect and more power to his people, a fourth of the total party vote.

What will bring the two powerful Black individuals on a collision course are the issues that Jackson contends have "robbed him of almost 300 delegates" and turned the party into an elite-controlled operation—the threshold system.

Jackson told JET that there definitely will be a showdown at the convention. Insisting that he will not be taken for granted, because he carries the hopes and aspirations of the "locked out" Blacks and the poor, Jackson outlined a number of gripes with the Democratic party. At the top of the list is his demand for a change in the rule that bars a candidate

Recalling that the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a polio victim, governed the United States from a wheelchair for nearly 16 years (four terms), Jackson wants the Democratic party and the nation to use the able minds of the disabled in wheelchairs.



from receiving any delegates if he doesn't win at least 20 percent of the statewide vote.

Jackson told JET he has received 20 percent of the popular vote throughout the primaries and caucuses, but has only received 7 to 9 percent of the delegates. "People should determine the delegates, not the rule makers," Jackson maintained.

"We will not be taken for granted by the Democratic establishment," he vowed. "We intend to expand our party and to heal our party. We will not rest until those who voted for me are enfranchised in our party."

Recalling his fight in 1972 when he helped unseat the regular party delegation headed then by the powerful Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, the presidential candidate made this point clear:

"I would rather think that once we get past the bosses and the rulemakers and we get to the rank-and-file Democrats at the convention, the people will make a democratic judgment. They did in 1972. I feel they will in 1984."

Next is the impact of the primaries and caucuses, another barrier for Jackson to achieve parity.

On the convention floor Jackson is expected to fight over the issues of dual registration and second primaries in the South.

The situation is complicated and the control is in the hands of state chairmen who rule uncommitted delegates, and so far, have refused to accede to any urging of Party Chairman Charles Manatt to remedy the



In Mexico City, Jackson, with EBONY Senior Editor Lerone Bennett, confer with Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda during visit.



Jackson receives enthusiastic greetings from predominantly White and Latino group (above) and (below) joins in with dancers from the Taos Pueblo in New Mexico.



This One



XQAP-ZBW-1EX3



In San Francisco's Chinatown, Jackson chats with Mrs. Lily Chin, who was honored by Asian community.

Seek Change In Rules

lopsided ratings.

What has infuriated many of the Jackson people and Black Democrats is that Virginia Governor Charles Robb, once considered a likely vice presidential nominee, has gotten involved in a stalemate over "holding pat" on current rules. A staffer for Robb sent out a memo to governors and state chairmen warning against an attack on the current rules. So far, Robb has not repudiated the memo, creating a bitterness that could erupt at the convention.

As Rules Committee chairman, Dixon already has begun meeting with advisors for all three presidential contenders in an effort to understand the full picture and begin to work out a harmonious settlement.

Said one party pro: "This is a crazy situation. One Black campaigns for change and the other Black is picked to bring order from the mess." Dixon, known for his alert mind and ability to bring people together, asked for the Rules Committee assignment. He is determined that the Democrats can peacefully work their way out of the controversy.

Looking toward the future, 6-year-old Taumon Peters expresses his feelings at Los Angeles rally.



"We'll eat pizza and birthday cake, then we'll all sleep over in the garage. Wanna come, Uncle Bill?"



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Ticker Tape U.S.A.

By Simeon Booker, Washington Bureau Chief

Confidential: So tight is the job market for Black executives that 280 candidates applied for the \$50,000-a-year directorship of the Institute for American Business in Washington. **Constance Newman** resigned from the organization which has a new board chairman, GM's **Abe Venable**... Here's the poop on Dem. convention committees: Platform—Co-chairs **Yvonne Burke** and Pennsylvania Rep. **William Gray**, with **Unita Blackwell**, **Sharon Dixon**, and Indiana Rep. **Katie Hall** as members, so far. Credentials—co-chairs Philly Mayor **Wilson Goode** and New York City businessman **Percy Sutton** and D.C. Rep. **Walter Fauntroy**, **Ted Gay**, **Terrence Pitts**, and **C. Delores Tucker** as members. Rules—California Rep. **Julian Dixon**, chairman, with co-chairs Illinois Comptroller **Roland Burris** and Newark Mayor **Kenneth Gibson** and D.C. Mayor **Marion Barry**, Civil Rights Commissioner **Mary Berry**, Atty. **Maynard Jackson**, Texas Rep. **Mickey Leland** and California State Legislator **Maxine Waters** as members... Setting a furious pace in government is **William Madison**, General Services Administration's first Black administrator in the nation's capital area. He won a silver bowl for public service and a \$5,000 senior executive bonus... President **Robert Green** of the University of the District of Columbia and sons **Vincent**, **Curtis** and **Kevin** hosted a 50th birthday party for **Lettie**, the wife and mother... Ex-D.C. policeman **Jerome E. Smith** was picked as escort and interpreter for **Leslie Xinwa**, the editor of *Probe Magazine*, during his U.S. tour. Xinwa is from South Africa.

* * *

National Headliners: Another victim of political winds—Mississippi Democratic National Committeeman **Aaron Henry**, the NAACP veteran. He was beaten in an election by relatively unknown **Benny Thompson**... Cabinet human rights sleeper is Secretary of Commerce **Malcolm Baldrige**, a NAACP member. He flew his company plane down to Atlanta for the funeral of Dr. **Martin Luther King** and



William Madison

is credited with setting up a job training center in Connecticut. The millionaire cabinet member now is priming minority enterprise as an election issue... Dr. **Constance Hilliard** resigned as the first Black director of the Africa Development Foundation, the only Black controlled group offering aid to Africa.



Aaron Henry



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FASHION

Fabulous Fashions For 1984

When it comes to fabulous fashions for 1984, bolder is definitely better.

Oversized jackets and coats, striking prints or geometric patterns, and brilliant beads and se-



Fabrice's bright red silk dress with abstract multi-colored beading (above, l) or silver mirrored cocktail dress with silver beaded fringe hemline are for the woman who dares to be different.

This Navajo blanket print jacket (l) by Michael Vollbracht has fox cuffs and is worn over Indian print silk gown with knife pleats.



Designed by Halston, this sequinned black evening pajama outfit (l) with plunging V-neck top and gold fringe is not for the faint of heart.

Boldness Is The '84 Look



Make a bold fashion statement in Don Kline's black and white sweater coat with leather collar and front and matching cap over white T-shirt with criss-cross panels and black full cut pants.



Eyecatching yellow and olive green houndstooth coat with double cowl neck tunic, and full skirt with flat laced boots are a Willi Smith creation. Below, a bright yellow wool top-per is worn over single-buttoned jacket and straight black skirt by Oscar de la Renta.



quins are what the well-dressed woman will be wearing this year.

Shoes, scarves, gloves and other accessories in brilliant colors turn an otherwise humdrum ensemble into a bold fashion statement.

Overall, this year's apparel is more relaxed with hemlines falling wherever you feel most comfortable, at the floor, mid-calf or above the knee. To top it all off, beading, spangles and sequins add to this season's fabulous attire, giving you the chance to be bold and daring and elegantly dressed at the same time.



Macon, Ga., Blacks Want To Save Jim Crow Sign

Chisled in stone at the old train depot in downtown Macon, Ga., is a sign that says "colored waiting room" and many local Black leaders want to keep it there.

The Georgia Power Company renovating the building wants to cover up the sign, which dates back to the days of segregation.

Blacks in the community, such as the Rev. Henry Ficklin, want the building to remain as is for

➔ **Outstanding Entrepreneur:** Cirilo A. McSween, owner and operator of two McDonald's restaurants in downtown Chicago, accepts the McDonald's Golden Arch Award as one of six outstanding franchisees around the world, from McDonald's president Michael R. Quinlan, at the company's recent biennial meeting of franchisees in L.A.

NEWSMAKERS

historical reasons. Ficklin, a schoolteacher and a City Council member, recently took a group of students on a field trip to the station. He said, "It prompted a good discussion about the era" among the pupils too young to recall segregation. Ficklin said, "Covering it up won't erase the fact that Blacks were discriminated against. I think it would be a greater slap in the face to think that Blacks were so ignorant that they couldn't accept history."



➔ **Singer's Mother Dies:** The mother of singer Leslie Uggams recently died in New York after a lengthy illness. Juanita E. Uggams, 76, died in a New York City hospital after her health suddenly took a turn for the worse, according to a spokesperson for the entertainer in Los Angeles. Ms. Uggams is co-host of the NBC-TV daytime series "Fantasy." At left in a JET file photo, mother and daughter are shown two years ago celebrating the entertainer's 38th birthday in New York.

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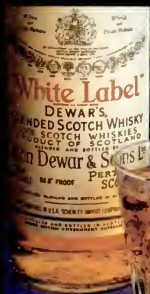
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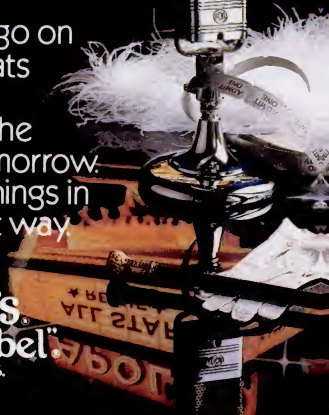
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The Apollo theatre was designated as an official New York City landmark on June 28, 1983 and was cited as one of the nation's most important cultural resources.



People



✱ **DeLawrence Beard**, a district judge in Annapolis, Md., since May 1982, was recently appointed to the bench of the Montgomery County Circuit Court by Gov. Harry Hughes.

✱ **Helen Campbell**, a faculty member at S.D. Bishop State Junior College in Mobile, Ala., recently became the first Black to receive a doctorate in music education from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa during recent commencement exercises.

✱ **Dr. James Cash Jr.**, a professor of the Harvard Business School faculty in Boston since 1976, has been elected to the board of directors of Affiliated Publications, Inc., parent company of Globe Newspaper Co.

✱ **William Hubbell III**, a member of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of New York, has been made a fellow in the Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076 in Great Britain, the most prestigious research lodge in the world.



DeLawrence Beard



Helen Campbell



Patricia McClenic



James Cash Jr.

✱ **Patricia McClenic**, previously the state public information director of the American Cancer Society in Richmond, Va., has been appointed associate director of public relations for the United Way, a national service organization, in Alexandria, Va.

✱ **Jane Manning**, former director of public information services at Riverside City College in Riverside, Calif., is now the director of information at the University of Nevada at Reno.

✱ **Betty Lavender**, a supervisor for word processing and photo typesetting at Republic Steel in Cleveland, was recently appointed Community Relations Commissioner of Bedford Heights, Ohio by the City Council.

✱ **Joseph Cothron**, military educator for the U.S. Army in Korea, has been named a recipient of the Meritorious Civilian Service honor, one of the highest awards by the commanding general of the Eighth Army.

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■ **In Tribute:** Mrs. Coretta Scott King accepts a plaque honoring her and the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., from Zimbabwe Ambassador to the U.S. E.O.Z. Chipamaunga and his wife Mrs. Lois Chipamaunga during her visit to the Zimbabwe Embassy in Washington, D.C. The plaque included a poetic inscription written by Zimbabwe Prime Minister Dr. Robert Mugabe.

This Week In Black History

June 12, 1963 — **Medgar W. Evers**, 37, field secretary for the NAACP in Mississippi for nine years, was shot in the back in front of his home in Jackson, Miss. Evers had just left his car after appearing at a civil rights rally at a church when he was shot and killed. Byron de la Beckwith, a member of the White Citizens Council of Mississippi, was charged with the murder of Evers. He was tried twice and freed both times by a Mississippi jury and given a hero's welcome when he returned to Greenwood, Miss. Evers, who had received two Bronze Stars for World War II Army service, was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

June 15, 1901 — **John Wesley Work**, composer and educator, was born in Tullahoma, Tenn. Dr. Work began teaching at Fisk University in 1957, where he directed the Fisk Jubilee Singers from 1947 to 1956, and served as chairman of the Music Department from 1950 to 1957. He was the author of *American Negro Songs*. Some of Dr. Works' compositions were *My Lord What A Morning*; *Go Tell It On The Mountain*, and *There's A Meetin' Here Tonight*.



Medgar Evers



EDUCATION

NEA Holds Hearings On Excellence In Schools

A cross section of witnesses, including parents, students, educators and social activists, recently testified at the National Educational Association's hearings in Washington, D.C., on equity and excellence in American education.

Dr. Prezell Robinson, past chairman of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education; Dr. Mary Berry, member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission; and Dr. Mary H. Futrell, president of the National Education Association, were among the many concerned

■ **In Memoriam:** The Rev. C. R. Thompson of Little Rock, Ark. led the academic procession recently at the 283rd Yale University commencement in New Haven, Conn. His son, Roosevelt Thompson, 22, a Yale student and future Rhodes Scholar, would have had the honor had it not been for a fatal accident on the New Jersey Turnpike on March 22, 1984. A scholarship fund has been established at his alma mater, Central High School in Little Rock, in his memory (JET, May 21).

individuals on hand for the hearings.

The remarks made during the hearings will be used to formulate education legislation during the 98th session of Congress this fall.

Ivy League Schools Seek Jr. High Minority Students

In an effort to recruit more minority students, the Association of Black Admissions and Financial Aid Officers of the Ivy League and Sister Schools has launched a national drive to make minority students aware of college opportunities while they are still in junior high school.

"While they are academically qualified, they're not aware of the processes needed to get into college," according to Ruth Bass Green, co-chairwoman.

The association, which includes such schools as Columbia, Yale, Princeton and Harvard, is targeting urban students.

Scholarships Offered To Victims Of Sick Cell

College scholarships for sickle cell anemia patients, who have not allowed their chronic illness to stand in the way of getting an education, are being offered through the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Candidates must be Illinois residents, enrolled or accepted for admission in a college or career school, who can document they have the disease which afflicts some 50,000 Blacks. Sickle cell anemia is a genetic blood disorder with no known cure. June 15 is the deadline to apply

for scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000. For more information, contact Lorraine Mason at the center at (312) 996-7013.

Effie Morris Honored By National Book Assn.

A Black librarian, Effie Lee Morris, who pioneered in the library sciences, established a system of library card applications in five languages, developed the Dial-a-Story concept, and established branch Advisory Councils of Children in San Francisco, was given the 1984 Women's National Book Association Award by its membership in Washington.

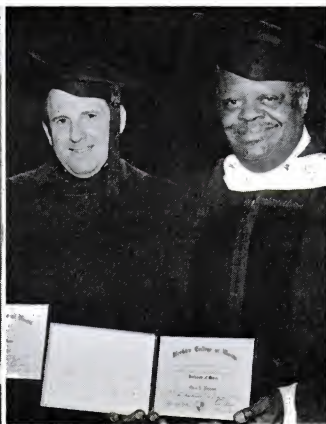
■ **Highest Honor:** In recognition of her achievements as executive vice-president of American Beauty Products Co., of Tulsa, Okla., Mrs. Donnie E. Cannon receives the honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Fla. Dr. Ruel L. Godbey (l), interim chairman of the division of business, and President Dr. Oswald P. Bronson Jr. (r) make the citation as the ceremony is witnessed by the degree recipient's husband Chapman R. Cannon Jr., chairman of the board of American Beauty Products.





■ **Doctorate For Diana:** Superstar Diana Ross, who refused to let an eye infection put a damper on the occasion, happily receives an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from University of Nevada officials during recent commencement exercises in Las Vegas. Her left eye was reportedly injured when glue she was using on her fingernails splattered in her face. Wearing a patch over the eye, the entertainer arrived in a limousine shortly before the presentation and departed immediately. Ms. Ross received the honor because she agreed to stand in for an ailing Sammy Davis Jr. at UNLV fund raiser last year.

■ **Artists Honored:** Katherine Dunham, world renowned dancer and actress proudly receives her hood signifying an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree, as Lincoln (Pa.) University President Dr. Herman R. Branson (l) reads a list of her accomplishments during graduation recently. At right, jazz luminary Oscar Peterson is congratulated by music critic Leonard Feather, who also received an Honorary Doctor of Music, during investiture services at the Boston campus.





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RELIGION

Chicago's Kenneth Smith Elected Seminary Prexy



Kenneth Smith

The Rev. Kenneth Smith, a national leader in the United Church of Christ and one of Chicago's most prominent Black clergymen, was recently elected president of the Chicago Theological Seminary. He will also serve as associate professor of ministry at the seminary.

Smith, 53, will replace Dr. Charles Shelby Rooks, the first Black president at the 129-year-old seminary. Rooks served as head of the institution from 1974 until January 1984 when he resigned to take the post of executive vice president of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries in New York City.

A senior minister of the Church of the Good Shepherd on the South Side since 1968, Smith announced he will resign the pastorate on Sept. 30 to become the 10th president of the seminary, which is affiliated with the United Church of Christ.

Smith, well known in religious and civic circles, holds a bachelor of arts degree from Virginia Union University in Richmond and a bachelor of divinity degree from Bethany Theological Seminary in Oakbrook, Ill. He also earned a master's from Drew University in Madison, N.J.

National Baptist Group Holds Session In Gary, Ind.

The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education will hold its 79th annual session June 18-23 at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana.

COMMUNICATIONS

Court Rules That Race Can Be Considered To Award F.C.C. Licenses

A Federal court in Washington, D.C., recently ruled that the Federal Communications Commission has the legal right to consider the race of an applicant for a broadcast license.

The ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, was designed to help alleviate the "extreme underrepresentation" of Blacks and other minorities in the broadcasting industry.

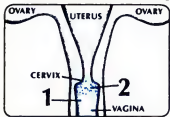
The court's ruling upheld a commission decision that awarded a license to a Black applicant over a White applicant with similar qualifications and background.

The commission awarded a new FM radio license in Hart, Mich. to the Waters Broadcasting Corporation instead of the West Michigan Broadcasting Corporation because the owner of Waters is Black.

The court concluded the commission had the right to consider "minority status as but one factor in a competitive multifactor selection system that is designed to obtain a diverse mix of broadcasters."

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■ **Life-Saving Operation:** Dr. Dwight Davis (l), an assistant professor of medicine in the cardiology division at the Pennsylvania State University's Milton S. Hershey Medical Center in University Park, is shown with transplant patient Eugene Feathers and Dr. John Pennock, chief surgeon, after recently performing the first successful heart transplant at the facility on Feathers. Davis was part of a 20-member medical team who performed the life-saving operation.

HEALTH

Blacks Hit Harder By Glaucoma Than Whites

Blacks are eight times as likely as Whites to suffer from glaucoma, an eye disease that is the leading cause of blindness in Afro Americans, according to a report issued recently by the American Academy of Ophthalmology in San Francisco.

Across the nation an estimated 2 million Americans are afflicted with the eye disease and 62,000 are left blinded by it, the group said. In the high risk age group of 45 to 64 the rate of glaucoma

among Blacks is as much as 17 times greater than among Whites, they said. The experts expressed a need for Blacks to have access to glaucoma screening and tests at an early age.

Heart Association Urging Cholesterol Level Tests

The American Heart Association in New York is urging citizens to have a simple blood test taken to measure the levels of fat and cholesterol in their bloodstream. The test, which costs \$10 to \$35, is designed to detect high cholesterol levels that may put individuals at greater risk of heart disease.



MR. & MRS.

Debbie Allen and Norm Nixon are proud parents of a baby girl.

Debbie Allen Gives Birth To 3-Lb. Girl In Miami

Actress/choreographer Debbie Allen recently gave birth to a three-pound, six-and-a-half-ounce baby girl at a Miami hospital.

Both Ms. Allen, the star of "Fame," and her two-month premature daughter, Vivian Nicole Nixon, were reported in good condition, according to a spokesman at Mt. Sinai Hospital.

Ms. Allen and her husband San Diego Clippers guard Norm Nixon had just returned from a European honeymoon and were in Miami with the cast of "Fame" which was working on a project with the American Lung Association, according to Ms. Allen's publicist.

Suddenly the unborn baby started behaving in a peculiar

way. When Ms. Allen went to see a doctor she was told to stay in the hospital and not fly anywhere. The child was born a couple of days later.

In other good news, Ms. Allen who already choreographs all of "Fame's" numbers, will serve as co-producer of the highly regarded program next season.

New York State OKs Bill Letting 14-Year-Olds Wed

New York Gov. Mario Cuomo recently signed a bill that would allow teenagers to marry at the age of 14. The bill specifies, however that teenagers must have parental permission and a family court judge ruling before they can get married.

Prior to the new bill, only girls from the age of 14 to 16 were permitted to marry with parental consent and a court ruling. Now boys, under age 16 are also permitted to get married under special circumstances.

And in England, where some authorities believe existing legal taboos only encourage secret sexual affairs, a panel of the Church of London recently recommended that step-parents and stepchildren and in-laws be allowed to wed.

The nine-member committee examined the country's 1949 Marriage Act, which makes such unions illegal. Panel members supported the right of individuals to marry their mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepmother, stepfather, stepson or stepdaughter in its report.

EEOC's Alfred Sweeney Is Lauded At Retirement Fete

Former Cleveland Mayor Carl Stokes credited a Black reporter for first suggesting that he run for the office and helping him develop strategy for winning the mayoral race in the '60s.

The reporter was Alfred (Al) Sweeney, then the city editor of the Cleveland Call-Post paper.

Stokes, now a practicing lawyer in the Buckeye City, showed up in Washington for a retirement testimonial for Sweeney at the Officers' Club of the Bolling Air Force Base where he was lauded at the testimonial for his long commitment to Black advancement.

Sweeney, a public affairs director for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, retired after a 22-year stint with government. He also worked at the U.S. Agriculture and Transportation Departments.

Talking to more than 300 friends who had gathered to honor Sweeney, Stokes, still a flashy and smooth talker, drew applause when he told how

Employers More Impressed By Personality Than Grades

With job prospects looking brighter as the economy makes strides toward regaining a sound foundation, college grads should remember when they go out for job interviews perspective employers are usually more impressed by your personality and behavior than grade point average.

A recent study of personnel



Sweeney (l) looks at gifts and receives hug from Stokes during retirement celebration.

LABOR

Sweeney had convinced him to make the run to become the city's first Black mayor.

"We sat down in his kitchen and drafted the plan ward by ward. After we figured it out on paper, then I knew the idea was not farfetched," Stokes said.

Sweeney previously had worked for the American Afro and Norfolk, Va. Journal and Guide newspapers.

directors at 100 of the country's largest firms said they were more interested in a job candidate's ability to communicate, personality and appearance rather than grades. The survey by Accountemps also found the biggest error a job hunter can make is acting too shy, failing to find out information about the company or job post and dwelling on salary and benefits early in the interview.

GERRI MAJOR'S

SOCIETY WORLD

COCKTAIL CHITCHAT: Chicago's distinguished concert artist **Dr. Theodore Charles Stone** was honored with a State Proclamation of the Illinois General Assembly. Illinois State Rep. **Larry Bullock** presented the coveted House resolution at a reception at the Parkway Community Center sponsored by board members of the Chicago Music Association and hosted by **Gertrude Taylor**. . . More than 50 friends cocktailed with **Thomas G. Cook**, the federal investigator, at his exclusive Manhattan co-op in honor of his birthday. Later 11 guests were invited to dine with him at **George Rey's** Midtime Restaurant where they enjoyed French cuisine and a two-tier birthday cake. . . Hundreds gathered recently at the reception for newlyweds **Melba Vinion** and **J. Stanley Sanders**. The reception was held at McClanay Estates in Los Angeles' Holmby Hills. . . When the more than 150 guests arrived at the spacious Los Angeles home of **James** and **Essie Keesee** for their annual Easter brunch, they were greeted by clever posters and decorations announcing the surprise celebration of the couple's 40th wedding anniversary. Guests included Bishop **Herschel Carter**, who arrived in his chauffeured limousine, mortuary tycoon **Joseph Spaulding**, Atty. **George Whitaker** and singer-actor-writer **Cy Wong**. . . **Charles** and **Liz Wright**, the golf pros who deserted Harlem for Sunrise, Fla., are planning a fall visit to New York City, and Gotham's **Bill Higgins** wrote, "please don't refer to us as ex-New Yorkers. We only winter in Florida."



■ **Nuptial Bliss:** Lt. and Mrs. **Rance D. Williams** are happy after exchanging wedding vows recently at St. John's A.M.E. Church in Frankfort, Ky. The bride, the former **Angela Smith**, holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena. She is currently working on a graduate degree at Kentucky State University in Frankfort. The bridegroom, who is serving in the U.S. Army, holds a bachelor's degree in marketing from Kentucky State.



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0.6 mg nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report Mar '84.

LAW AND JUSTICE

Arab-American Muslim New N.J. Assistant Prosecutor

Hassen Abdellah of Elizabeth, N.J., was recently appointed assistant prosecutor of Union County. He is the first indigenous Arab-American Muslim to hold the position in the county.

Commenting on his new position Abdellah told JET, "I am very proud of my achievement and the progress of this city. A lot of people thought being a Muslim would exclude me from getting involved in this type of job." He added, "This is especially good for Muslims to see that Muslims are in high places in this country and that Islam is respected."

He said his religion does not forbid him from prosecuting other Muslims if necessary.

Hassen Abdellah takes oath of office as his grandmother Rose Simmons Abdellah holds Holy Koran and Union County prosecutor John H. Stamler observes.



Abdellah, 26, is a graduate of Bucknell University and Seton Hall University Law School and was admitted to the New Jersey Bar in 1983.

New Haven Attorneys Start City's 1st Black Law Firm

Three Black attorneys in New Haven, Conn., recently joined together and opened the city's first Black law firm.

The firm, Jones, Turner & Wright, specializes in civil rights, criminal defense, commercial law, divorce, family law and other areas of law.

"It was time for New Haven to have its own Black law firm," said Clarence J. Jones, one of the partners. He noted that though the city is 30 percent Black, residents "did not have access to a Black law firm."

Jones, 40, a graduate of Howard University Law School has been practicing law in New Haven for more than five years.

Partners John Turner, 34, is a graduate of the New England School of Law and Clinton Wright, 33, is a graduate of Emory University School of Law.

Gov't Brief Opposes Quotas On Alabama Police Force

The Reagan administration recently filed a court brief in Washington, D.C., challenging a U.S. District judge's ruling that Blacks must receive half of all Alabama state police promotions until they comprise 25 percent of the force. The document alleged the quota system discriminates against Whites.

Words of the Week

Dorothy Tillman, outspoken civil rights activist who worked with the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in the '60s and was recently appointed Third Ward alderperson in Chicago, recalling what King taught her about unity and power: *"We were taught (by King) that there is no 'I' in power. The only word in power is 'we.'"*

Ed Bell, noted Detroit attorney, jokingly explaining why he is not a handy man around the house: *"I'm aware of accidents that occur around the house, and I'm not going to be the cause of one. I don't cut grass or shovel snow, but sometimes I'll fix breakfast."*

Aaron Pryor, International Boxing Federation junior-welterweight (140-pound) champion, noting why he is not interested in fighting super-welterweight (154-pound) Roberto Duran: *"I'm not a psycho for real, just in the media."*

Dave Green, popular Chicago jazz pianist, observing the effect good music has on listeners: *"A song is just a reflection of a person's past. A person returns in spirit to just the thing they were doing when they first heard the song. Music is a very strong influence."*

Cicely Tyson, Emmy Award-winning actress advising graduates at Spelman College in Atlanta during recent commencement exercises that they must continue to work hard to develop their talents and must depend on themselves to achieve success: *"No one is going to give it to you on a silver platter. If there is any question in their mind about whether you deserve it or not, you're never going to see it."*

George Kirby, famous comedian who has been giving anti-drug lectures since being paroled after serving a sentence on drug charges: *"Americans had better stop worrying about nuclear warfare or germ warfare because we're being invaded with drugs."*



Dorothy Tillman



Ed Bell



Aaron Pryor



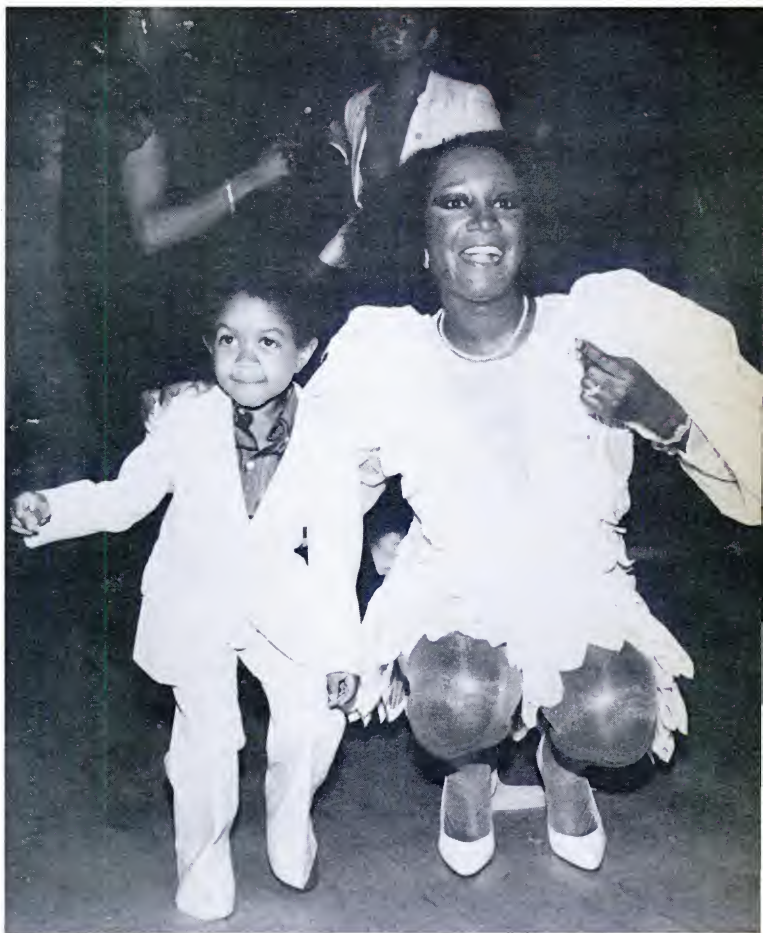
Cicely Tyson



THE WEEK'S BEST PHOTOS

Moneta Steet Jr.

» **Welcome Back:** Teddy Pendergrass, wheelchair-bound since a car accident two years ago, is greeted by entertainers George Benson and Melba Moore at a reception in New York, where Pendergrass announced his comeback with his new album, *Love Language*.



Ronald Lopez/PBL

■ **All The Way Down:** Powerful vocalist Patti LaBelle, who is thrilling audiences on her national concert tour, took time out to get all the way down and boogie with "Webster" TV star Emmanuel Lewis during a birthday bash in New York marking her 40th year.



James Mitchell

■ **Comedy Caper:** Sammy Davis Jr., world's greatest variety performer, clowns around with Bill Cosby, king of comedy about capers of children, before host Irv Kupcinet taped their appearance on Kup's Show, which aired in Chicago on television station WTTW.

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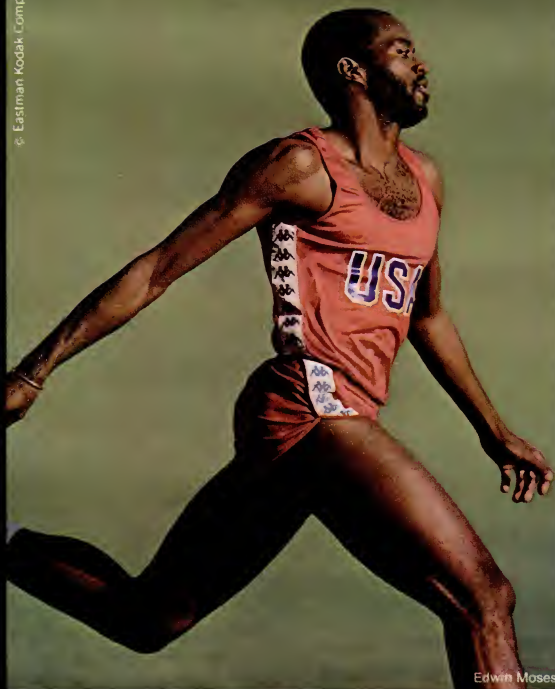
BEAUTY OF THE WEEK

Ruth Booker, a student at DePaul University in Chicago is very attractive and talented. She enjoys singing, dancing and physical fitness.

Norman L. Hunter



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Edwin Moses

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Moses is a picture of concentration during practice sessions as well.

Edwin Moses Views Second Gold Medal As Model For Kids

Although he has won an unparalleled 88 consecutive races in the 400-meter hurdles, owns a

Moses seems to jump right out of this billboard poster for Kodak which is one of several adorning the tops of buildings in Los Angeles.

gold medal from the 1976 Olympic Games, and earns an estimated \$500,000 yearly from endorsements, Edwin Moses says a second gold medal this summer (and maybe a third in 1988) is most important "because I treasure being a role model for kids, especially Black kids."

Considered a shoo-in for that second medal this summer, Moses, who has a degree in physics and engineering from Morehouse College, adds, "I always stress academic excellence to the kids I come in contact with, then physical prowess. People always put my physical abilities first, but I say it's what I have been able to do with my head that got me where I am in the world of track and field. This is what enables me to relate to kids and tell them my method for success."

For those who measure success in terms of dollars, Moses,

(Continued on page 46)





World travelers, Moses and wife Myrella find strolling California beaches a peaceful way of relaxing.

Pride As Role Model

(Continued from page 45)

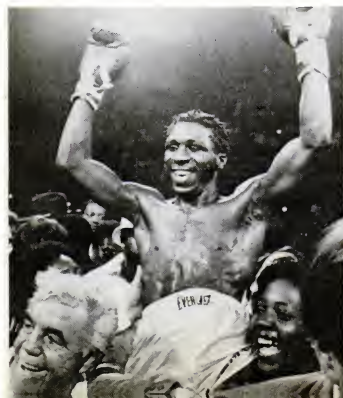
who is a consultant and commercial star for Eastman Kodak and Adidas shoes, revealed, "I am living quite comfortably off the commercial side of track and field. But any athlete who is successful as I have been could too. The thing is having the knowledge to keep things going and invest it wisely."

Having missed out on winning his second medal in 1980 when

the U.S. boycotted the Games in Russia, Moses, now 28, admitted he was sorely disappointed. And while he sympathizes with his fellow Americans who will miss the Russian competition this time around because of their withdrawal, "It doesn't really affect me because whatever competition I have will still be there. Some of the other events, like boxing, may be dulled by the Russian pullout, but I'm sure anyone who wins a gold medal will be just as proud."

Moses, who lives with his German-born wife Myrella in Los Angeles, relishes his popularity with children, but says expanding his own family is still a few years away.

"I know that kids look up to me," says the 1983 Sullivan Award winner as amateur sport's most outstanding athlete, "that's why I try so hard to project a positive image. I realize that Black kids need more Black heroes, and I hope that I can encourage Black kids to do something positive with their lives."

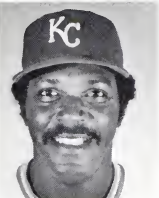


■ **New Lightweight Champ:** Livingstone Bramble gets a lift in Buffalo, N.Y., after destroying Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini with a 14th round KO to capture the WBA lightweight crown. A native Haitian, who now fights out of Passaic, N.J., Bramble, an avowed Rastafarian, said he had the help of a "witch doctor" but actually used his fists to batter Mancini.



Reformed Alcoholic

Blue Prays For Chance To Return To Baseball



Vida Blue

says "I just pray that I get another chance" to return to the game which has dominated his life for the last 15 years.

Awaiting a ruling from Baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn on whether he can come back after spending 90 days in prison, Blue notes that his co-conspirators, Willie Wilson, Jerry Martin and Willie Aikens, have already renewed their careers. "When I watch them on TV, I ask, 'What about Vida?'"

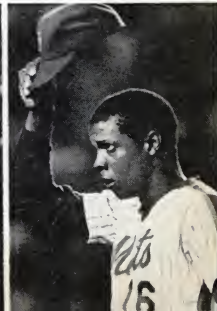
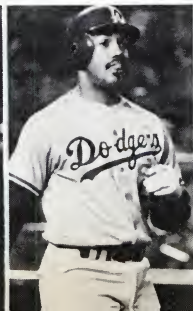
Vida Blue, who like three of his former Kansas City Royals teammates has paid his "debt" to society for attempting to buy cocaine,

The former Cy Young Award winner and four-time All-star confessed that although his involvement with drugs landed him in prison, it was alcohol, not cocaine, that was his weakness. "A lot of people didn't know I had a drinking problem. When I told my doctor I was a beer-a-holic, he said, 'No, you're an alcoholic.' I was a closet alcoholic. I drank beer all the time. But never before I pitched.

"I used cocaine on a recreational basis. I never free-based, but the point is I used it. The smartest thing I did was seek professional help. That happened after the Royals cut me, and before the jail sentence."

Looking back on a career that earned him over a million dollars but left him only nine games short of winning 200, and 28 strikeouts from 2,000. Blue assured, "I have a God-given talent to throw a baseball. I don't think I appreciated it before."

■ **A Real Gooden:** Los Angeles Dodgers' stars (l-r) Pedro Guerrero, Franklin Stubbs and Steve Sax, who between them struck out seven times in a recent game against the New York Mets with Dwight Gooden (r) doing the pitching, show their disappointment at the plate. Gooden, only 19, fanned 14 batters in beating the Dodgers 2-1 as he waves to a grateful hometown crowd. Last season Gooden was in the minor leagues on the lowest level (single-A) but posted a 19-4 record and struck out 300.



Parker Taking Out Past Frustration With His Bat



Dave Parker

Emerging from a post-game shower with only a towel wrapped around his waist, at 6-foot-5 and 230-pounds, Dave Parker is obviously a man people shouldn't want to anger. Because with a 44-ounce bat in his hand, he can be devastating.

Proving the latter, the two-time batting champ who spent 10 years with the Pittsburgh Pirates is back on target as a bona-fide .300-hitter with the Cincinnati Reds and taking out his past frustrations on opposing pitchers.

"When you achieve something," said the 32-year-old Parker before a recent game, "you become a target. It became fashionable to shoot at Dave Parker. I was the first player (in 1979) to earn a million dollars. People said nobody was worth a million dollars. And being Black and being outspoken didn't help."

And when Pittsburgh fans who ignored the fact that he played with injuries over the last three years began to throw debris at the Pirates outfield star, he fought back the only way he could, "by playing harder" and making sure the media knew how he felt.

Last winter he agreed to a trade to the Reds.

Sprinter Evelyn Ashford Goes After Three Gold Medals In L.A. Olympics

Sprinter Evelyn Ashford, who holds the world record of 10.79 seconds in the women's 100 meter dash, says she's going after "three gold medals, fame and fortune" and product endorsements in this summer's Olympics in Los Angeles.



Evelyn Ashford

Ms. Ashford, 27, says thus far, product endorsements and getting public attention have been difficult because she is "a Black, female sprinter."

But she reasons, "I think it will take three gold medals (100, 200, 400 relay) to get the endorsements. I have to be the hero of the Games."

Still seething over comments about him and his past problems in former teammate Willie Stargell's autobiography, Parker said, "I will never forgive him for what he did to me in his book. It was a lot of negative crap and mostly untrue. He should have kept his feelings about me to himself. He's no psychiatrist to be able to analyze me. How I reacted to the things that were done to me is my business.

"But that's all behind me now. I'm back home in Cincinnati now and I'm having more fun than ever just playing baseball injury free."

12 YEARS OLD WORLDWIDE - BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY - 86 PROOF
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Be careful! That's Chivas Regal!

Hearns Says Duran In His Path To Four Titles

Thomas Hearns, who promises to prove "the Hit Man is back," says he will knock out Roberto Duran on June 15 when they clash in Las Vegas.

"People have been knocking me because I have been busy proving that I can box as well as knock people out," stressed the 25-year-old two-time champ. "Well I want to show that I can still put my opponent away and the fact that it's Duran will only make it sweeter," confides the man who owns a 39-1 record with 32 knockouts.

Having lost his WBA welterweight boxing title to Sugar Ray Leonard in 1981, and since won the WBC super welterweight crown, Hearns said his original



Tommy Hearns



Roberto Duran

goal of four titles is still intact. "Duran is a good fight for me to prove myself. But he is only a stepping stone to a fight with (middleweight champ Marvelous) Marvin Hagler. After that I'll go for Michael Spinks and the light-heavyweight crown."

Then he'll be ready to settle down with fiancée Kim Craig and their 19-month-old daughter. "Right now, I'm taking care of serious business and not ready for marriage. She (Kim) understands this since we've been together for seven years."

Bears' Star Gault Unable To Clear Olympic Hurdle



Willie Gault

Chicago Bears football star Willie Gault said he was "shocked and hurt" when a federal judge in Los Angeles denied his appeal

to force the International Olympic Committee to allow him to compete in the 1984 Olympics.

Gault, 23, signed a four-year, \$1.3 million contract with the Bears last September. But the 6-foot, 180-pound world class sprinter and hurdler said he thought he could still compete in

the Olympics because the NCAA allows professionals in one sport to compete as amateurs in another. When he found that the IOC didn't agree, he filed suit to gain Olympic status.

Although the suit cost him nearly \$40,000 and he was fined for missing two days of practice with the Bears, Gault confided, "It was worth it to me. I was qualified to run in the 1980 Games but the U.S. didn't go to Russia. I really wanted to compete this time, but I still feel I made the right choice for my family by turning professional."

Gault, who caught 40 passes last season for 836 yards and eight touchdowns, was married last summer and is now a father.

The toe to know.



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YANNICK NOAH

'Playing A White Sport' Leaves Tennis Ace Lonely



Yannick Noah

French tennis star Yannick Noah in a recent *Tennis Magazine* interview.

One of a handful of Blacks on the pro tennis tour, yet one of the game's biggest names, Noah says he would like "to feel that great excitement of a big game, to be friends with the other guys on the team."

During a visit to Johnson Publishing Co., the home of *JET* and *EBONY*, the multi-lingual Noah told a group of editors, "I envy your American stars in basketball, baseball, football and hockey. Because they play on a team, the pressure is not as great towards winning, nor are the demands on your personal time as great."

He went on to explain that, "This is one reason I am moving to New York, so I can feel free to walk down the streets without being mobbed, or anyone watching every move I make like under a microscope."

Noah, 24, who recently married and now lives in New York, revealed in the *Tennis* interview, "I would like to feel that kind of popular appeal in my sport. Ten-

"I'm playing in a White sport, and sometimes I wish I could play basketball instead," reveals transplanted

nis doesn't have as much color (as basketball which is predominantly Black). Tennis can be very lonely. The players are friendly, but a lot of it is a polite thing for all of us."

Because of his African heritage and European background, Noah admitted that soccer is among his favorite sports after tennis, "But when in America, my team is the Philadelphia 76ers. I love the way they play basketball like a family."

Preparing to defend his French Open title, the 6-foot-4 Cameroon native, who is increasing his popularity by being so outspoken and will be featured in non-sport magazines like *Vogue* and *Gentleman's Quarterly*, adds, "The atmosphere at most tournaments shows that tennis is still a rich man's sport."

Ex-NFL Player Sought As Bank Robber Kills Self

Former St. Louis Cardinals football player Eric Washington, sought by police for two recent bank robberies, barricaded himself in his St. Louis apartment and shot himself in the head as police tried to enter.

Washington, 34, who played defensive cornerback with the Cardinals 1972-73, was sought for questioning about robberies Dec. 13, 1983 and May 4 at two Mercantile Banks in the St. Louis area.

Police said they found a large amount of cash stained with a bank's tracing dye inside the apartment.

Died:

... **Thomas Dickens**, 72, retired New York State Supreme Court Justice, suddenly in New York City... **Henry Peck Thomas**, 67, retired design engineer who served at the Laboratory of Astrophysics and Space Research at the University of Chicago for 35 years, of heart failure, in the city... **Luther Ellis Frazier**, 79, retired proprietor of Frazier's Cafe Society in downtown Atlanta, suddenly there... **Joseph A. Williams**, 77, a former small businessman and retired postal Clerk on Chicago's South Side, after a long battle against cancer... **Arthur Cartwright**, 74, former Michigan State Senator who resigned from the legislature in 1978, in an automobile accident after he lost control of his 1981 Cadillac and crashed into the rear of a truck... **Robert Nelson Jr.**, 64, one of the most decorated American combat pilots and a pioneer of equal rights, of heart failure in Chicago... **George Rooks**, 55, captain on the White Plains, N.Y. Police Department, of a heart attack, at the White Plains Hospital Medical Center... **Rev. Dr. A. Alfred Watts**, 87, podiatrist and clergyman, after a brief illness, in Los Angeles... **Dr. Edward Virgil Abner**, 59, a psychologist, of a heart attack while playing tennis and pronounced dead at Beyers hospital in Ypsilanti, Mich. A bachelor, his survivors are Dr. David Abner, a Howard University professor; and Ewart Abner, personal manager of entertainer Stevie Wonder.

CENSUS

Services In Chicago For Award-winning Columnist

Funeral services were held recently in Chicago for **Leanita McClain**, 32, award-winning Chicago Tribune columnist and the first Black member of the newspaper's editorial board. Her death was ruled a suicide caused by drug overdose.

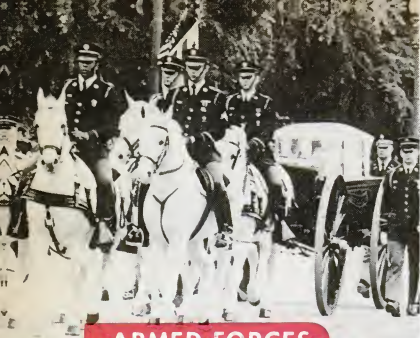


Leanita McClain

Ms. McClain, who was found dead in her South Side apartment by a friend who was a former Tribune reporter, had left several notes behind, the contents of which were not disclosed, police said. The Chicago native grew up in public housing and went through the public school system. She worked her way through Chicago State University as a part-time classified ad taker at the daily newspaper. She joined the Tribune editorial staff in 1973, soon after earning a master's degree from Northwestern University.

Ms. McClain reportedly had been receiving professional help and was often depressed over the loss of her four-year-old nephew a year ago and the anniversary of her marriage which had ended in divorce several years before.

Survivors include her parents, Lloyd and Elizabeth McClain; and two sisters, Anita Dabney and Leatrice Mowatt.



ARMED FORCES

Horse-drawn caisson is accompanied by an honor guard.

Blacks' Presence Ignored In Nation's Tribute To Vietnam Unknown Soldier

Is America's Vietnam War Unknown Soldier a Black GI?

Because of the preponderance of Black troops in Vietnam War's American forces, Black GIs shouldered more than their share of the fighting, and a higher percentage of casualties, with more than 7,000 killed.

Just the thought of the newest patriotic hero being Black was about all that was apparent as the nation celebrated its Memorial Day weekend.

More than a quarter of a million people lined Washington streets as a horse-drawn caisson with the remains of the fallen GI wound its way from the Capitol Rotunda to Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Only a few Blacks were in the crowd. There were few Black guests at the Amphitheater ceremony. Few Blacks in the parade. And President Reagan didn't

mention the Black presence or achievement during the war in his remarks.

"Typical," said an embittered Black Vietnam veteran. "Just like during the war. Just like when we came home. We're still forgotten. The only hope we can cling to is the possibility that the cat in the coffin is one of us."

The first Black officer ever to command an Army brigade in combat accomplished it in Vietnam. Frederic Davison commanded the 199th Light Infantry Brigade in an area near Saigon. He retired in 1979 after 32 years.

Now executive assistant to Howard University President James Cheek, Gen. Davison told JET, "Black troops fulfilled every duty asked of any person and did it well." He was the highest ranked Black officer in Vietnam at the time the Army fielded its first fully integrated troops.

Col. Fred Cherry, the Black Air Force pilot who was shot down and spent almost two years in a POW camp, was probably the most publicized Black of the war. He wasn't at the Arlington National Cemetery service.

Black officers contend that the administration is as insensitive to Black military achievements as it is to Black advancement in any other field. Said one Black officer: "Most Black GIs in Vietnam got the short end of the stick. And this one event of recognizing the war's unknown soldier could have a chance to right the record. But President Reagan's people showed that they're part of the problem, too."

Celebrity Beat

LENA'S MESSAGE TO MICHAEL. Before ringing down curtains on her Chicago engagement to take her show to London, lovely **Lena Horne** sent a message from the stage to superstar **Michael Jackson**, who was a member of the 1978 *Wiz* movie with her. The beautiful grandmother said that she had been reading a lot about Michael dating 19-year-old actress **Brooke Shields** and she wants him to cool it. "I've got two pretty granddaughters (**Jenny**, 19, and **Amy**, 17) and I want Michael to wait for one of them." Her daughter, **Gail**, is the mother and the father is **Sidney Lumet**, who directed the Motown movie, which also starred **Diana Ross**.

HANDSOME BILLY DEE WILLIAMS will add more intrigue to TV's "Dynasty" prime-time soap opera when he makes his debut on the show this season in the role of **Brady Rogers**, a recording industry executive. The suave sex symbol's chemistry will mix with that of **Diahann Carroll**, **Joan Collins** and **Linda Evans** to make "Dynasty" one of the hottest shows on the TV tube.

KEEPING TABS ON CELEBS. Former heavyweight boxing champion **Floyd Patterson** says that he and actor **James Cagney** have called off plans to open a restaurant together. . . One reason **Nancy Wilson** is singing better than ever these days is that she has to be a perfect role model for her 8-year-old daughter, **Samantha**, who has a singing and acting role in a California theatre production of *My Fair Lady*. . . As actor/filmmaker **Harry Belafonte** was returning to New York from Cannes and other European cities promoting his new movie, *Beat Street*, his longtime cinema cohort, **Sidney Poitier**, was busy in the city filming his flick called *Shootout*. Instead of being on camera as a star of his movie, Sidney is behind the camera as director. . . Although entertainer **Woody Allen** went to court and got a judge to stop his look-alikes from profiting off his image, there is a growing boom in **Michael Jackson** look-alikes. **Ron Smith's** celebrity look-alike firm in Hollywood is conducting a nationwide search to employ 50 imitators of the superstar/singer/entertainer. He says Michael's imitators could earn up to \$50,000 a year pretending to be the real Michael in advertisements and personal appearances. . . **Hinton Battle** won the coveted Tony Award for his role in Broadway's *The Tap Dance Kid*, which also features pint-sized dancer **Alfonso Ribeiro**.

CELEBS BIRTHDAYS. Adding another year this week are former baseball star **Lou Brock**, June 18; singer/composer **Lionel Richie**, June 20; and choreographer **Katherine Dunham**, June 22.

ENTERTAINMENT

Comeback Album Gives Pendergrass Sense Of Great Accomplishment

Though he was plagued with doubts, Teddy Pendergrass, one-time macho singer who was left a quadriplegic after an auto accident two years ago, said completing his first album since the mishap has given him a feeling of great accomplishment.

Pendergrass, gravel-voiced singer who used to bring women to their knees, said from his wheelchair during an interview with "Good Morning America" host David Hartmann, "At first, I was unsure I would be able to do it." He added, "But with determination, perseverance and my God on my side, I know for a fact you can do what is said you won't be able to do." The fruit of such determination is his latest album on Elektra Records titled

Love Language.

When his Rolls Royce crashed into a tree in March, 1982, leaving him paralyzed from the neck down, Pendergrass said people said of his musical career: "The guy's dead. He's gone. He won't be back. That's it for him. Washed out." He added, "And I set out to prove that nobody will determine when I'm done but me."

After undergoing surgery in Florida recently to relieve pressure on the spinal cord and nerves, an optimistic Pendergrass said "the prognosis is basically that we intend for things to get better." Otherwise, Pendergrass added, "I'm healthy as a bull. I'm very healthy. I'm on a self-imposed diet so I don't just sit here and blow up. I stopped eating red meat. No sugar, no salt, no pepper, no starch."

The sensuous singer, asked if his health status includes sexual capabilities, beamed as he responded: "Sure," his smile broadened. "God spared me my three most important organs — my brains, my vocal chords and my reproductive capacity. As for sex itself, somebody else has to do the work now, that's all."

When asked what motivated him to come out with a new album, Pendergrass replied, "I took a lot of time thinking and praying over the situation and I felt when it was about time I would know."

He added, "I didn't want to just sit down and call it quits."

Teddy is greeted by fans celebrating his comeback and his album.



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JET'S **TOP** 20 Singles

Title	Artist and Label
1 LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE BOY	Deniece Williams (Columbia)
2 DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME	Yarbrough & Peoples (Total Experience)
3 SHACKLES	R.J.'s Latest Arrival (Quality)
4 HELLO	Lionel Richie (Motown)
5 FREAKSHOW ON THE DANCE FLOOR	Bar-Kays (Mercury)
6 LOVE, NEED, AND WANT YOU	Patti LaBelle (Philadelphia Int'l)
7 LOVELITE	O'Bryan (Capitol)
8 RIGHT OR WRONG	The Spinners (Atlantic)
9 JAM ON IT	Newcleus (Sunnyview)
10 IN THE MIX	Roger (Warner Bros.)
11 SHE'S STRANGE	Cameo (PolyGram)
12 FEELS SO REAL (WON'T LET GO)	Patrice Rushen (Elektra)
13 SAIL AWAY	The Temptations (Gordy)
14 THERE'S NO EASY WAY	James Ingram (Qwest)
15 OBSCENE PHONE CALLER	Rockwell (Motown)
16 EXTRAORDINARY GIRL	The O'Jays (Philadelphia Int'l)
17 DON'T LOOK ANY FURTHER	Dennis Edwards (Gordy)
18 LADY YOU ARE	One Way (MCA)
19 SUPERSTAR/UNTIL YOU COME BACK TO ME	Luther Vandross (Epic)
20 JUMP (FOR MY LOVE)	Pointer Sisters (RCA)



Deniece Williams



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Aretha Franklin Set To Play Mahalia Jackson On Stage



Aretha Franklin



Mahalia Jackson

Queen of soul Aretha Franklin announced recently she will be starring in the title role in the stage production, *Sing Mahalia*, a tribute to legendary gospel great Mahalia Jackson scheduled to open June 7 in Columbus, Ohio.

In a telephone interview from her Detroit home, Ms. Franklin told JET the show will appear in Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit before going to Broadway.

The entertainer said she was about nine years old when she met Mahalia Jackson. "She and my Dad were great friends and she would come over to the house when she was in town. And of course she would come to my father's church and he would not let her get out without singing," she recalled.

With a career that has spanned more than two decades and included gospel, rhythm and blues and movies, Ms. Franklin said she is thrilled and honored to appear on stage as Mahalia Jackson who she described as "an absolutely great lady, a devout Christian, who was warm with a great sense of humor."

In preparation for her upcoming role, Ms. Franklin said she has been talking to people close to Mahalia Jackson to gain more insight and has been studying tapes of her performances as well.

Services Held In Boston For Former Lead Singer Of Platters, Nate Nelson



Nate Nelson

Services were held recently outside of Boston for Nate Nelson, 52, who achieved success on the charts with such hits as

Only You and *The Great Pretender* with the Platters.

He died of heart failure at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston one day after his wife, Angel, called a news conference

to try and find a heart donor for her husband. Nelson hit the big time singing from 1954 to 1962 with the Flamingoes, singing *I Only Have Eyes For You*. With the Platters between 1964 and 1982, he also provided lead vocals for *Twilight Time* and *Smoke Gets In Your Eyes*.

The singer's entertainment career came to an abrupt halt 2½ years ago when he suffered one of a series of heart attacks. He was later diagnosed as having coronary artery disease.

After his wife's plea for a donor, donor banks along the East coast were notified, but no donor was found.

JET'S **Top** 20 Albums



Lionel Richie



Dennis Edwards

Title

Artist and Label

- 1 **CAN'T SLOW DOWN** Lionel Richie (Motown)
- 2 **DON'T LOOK ANY FURTHER** Dennis Edwards (Gordy)
- 3 **LADY** One Way (MCA)
- 4 **BUSY BODY** Luther Vandross (Epic)
- 5 **SHE'S STRANGE** Cameo (PolyGram)
- 6 **THE POET II** Bobby Womack (Beverly Glen)
- 7 **I'M IN LOVE AGAIN** Patti LaBelle (Philadelphia Int'l)
- 8 **BE MY LOVER** O'Bryan (Capitol)
- 9 **THRILLER** Michael Jackson (Epic)
- 10 **JERMAINE JACKSON** Jermaine Jackson (Arista)
- 11 **BE A WINNER** Yarbrough & Peoples (Total Experience)
- 12 **DAINGEROUS** Bar-Kays (Mercury)
- 13 **RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME** Denise LaSalle (Malaco)
- 14 **INTIMATE CONNECTION** Kleeer (Atlantic)
- 15 **JOYSTICK** The Dazz Band (Motown)
- 16 **BREAK OUT** Pointer Sisters (RCA)
- 17 **IT'S YOUR NIGHT** James Ingram (Qwest)
- 18 **LET THE MUSIC PLAY** Shannon (Mirage)
- 19 **CROSS FIRE** The Spinners (Atlantic)
- 20 **NEVER SAY NEVER** Melba Moore (Capitol)



PRESENTS

Lionel Richie

ON TOUR

May 25:	Birmingham, AL	Civic Center Arena
May 26:	Atlanta, GA	Omni
May 27:	Cincinnati, OH	Riverfront Coliseum
May 29:	Pittsburgh, PA	Civic Arena
May 30:	Philadelphia, PA	Spectrum
June 1:	Meadowlands, NJ	Meadowlands Arena
June 2:	Meadowlands, NJ	Meadowlands Arena
June 3:	Nassau, NY	Nassau Coliseum
June 5:	Boston, MA	Centrum
June 6:	Hartford, CT	Hartford Civic Center
June 10:	Washington, DC	Capital Centre
June 13:	Indianapolis, IN	Market Square Arena
June 14:	Detroit, MI	Joe Louis Arena
June 15:	Chicago, IL	The Horizon
June 18:	Chicago, IL	The Horizon
June 18:	Cleveland, OH	Blossom Music Center
June 19:	Cleveland, OH	Blossom Music Center
June 21:	Milwaukee, WI	Alpine Valley Music Theatre
June 22:	St. Paul, MN	Civic Center Arena
June 23:	Kansas City, MO	Kemper Arena
June 26:	Calgary, Canada	Saddle Dome
June 27:	Edmonton, Canada	Northlands Coliseum
June 28:	Vancouver, BC	Vancouver Coliseum
June 30:	Portland, OR	Portland Coliseum
July 1:	Boise, ID	The Pavilion
July 3:	Seattle, WA	Tacoma Dome
July 6:	Los Angeles, CA	The Forum
July 7:	Los Angeles, CA	The Forum
July 8:	Los Angeles, CA	The Forum

THANKS,

Lionel

Black Promoters Call End To Richie Boycott Threat

A threatened boycott and demonstration by Black promoters against singer/songwriter Lionel Richie disappeared just hours before his recent sold-out concert in Philadelphia.

After meeting with the famous entertainer, Rev. Al Sharpton and Muslim minister Jeremiah Shabazz said the New York-based National Promoters Association called off planned mass picketing.

Sharpton told JET that during the meeting in the Palace Hotel suite of the pop star, he told Richie: "We don't seek to harm you. We just want to remind you that Black America believed in you before anyone did. We bought all your records and concert tickets before anyone did. We bought them before Whites matured enough to appreciate you . . . We want Black promoters, vendors and Black media institutions to be used by you because they create jobs in our community."

Lionel Richie told JET that his meeting with Jeremiah Shabazz and Rev. Al Sharpton (r) was constructive and he praised both men.

Richie reportedly told Sharpton and Shabazz that he has instructed his management to enter into negotiations to resolve the conflict.

The pop star confirmed this in a telephone call to JET. He said that he was sensitive to Black causes because his record as an entertainer is proof. "I'm still working for Motown Records and that's a Black company," he said. He then cited his involvement in raising funds for the United Negro College Fund, (JET, March 26) and his financial contributions to other Black causes. "My real problem is that I no longer have my Black manager, Benny Ashburn (now deceased), to handle by business affairs. He was with me and the Commodores for over 15 years and kept things on track. Now, I'm going to have to take over some of those responsibilities," he said. "I'll see that Black promoters handle some of my concert dates. I've already picked Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (of Los Angeles Lakers) to promote my Los Angeles concert," he disclosed.





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TELEVISION



B.B. King Stars On PBS Special

The first nationally-aired hour-long special devoted to **B.B. King** and his music features selections of his classic tunes that were performed in a concert at Tufts University along with documentary scenes of his early life and times in Mississippi on "Let The Good

Times Roll With B.B. King" (Wednesday, June 13, check your local listing for time) on PBS. Others scheduled to appear this week include:

Byron Allen on "Real People," (Wednesday, June 13, at 8 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Clarence Gilyard Jr. on "The Duck Factory," (Wednesday, June 13, at 9:30 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Denzel Washington on "St. Elsewhere," (Wednesday, June 13, at 10 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Paula Kelly on "Night Court," (Thursday, June 14, at 9:30 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Mike Warren/Taurean Blacque on "Hill Street Blues," (Thursday, June 14, at 10 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Gary Coleman/Todd Bridges on "Diff'rent Strokes," (Saturday, June 16, at 8 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Ted Lange on "Love Boat," (Saturday, June 16, at 9 p.m., ET) on ABC.

Moses Gunn on "Father Murphy," (Sunday, June 17, at 7 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Isabel Sanford/Sherman Hemsley on "The Jeffersons," (Sunday, June 17, at 9 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Madge Sinclair/Brian Mitchell on "Trapper John, M.D." (Sunday, June 17, at 10 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Mel Stewart on "Scarecrow and Mrs. King," (Monday, June 18, at 8 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Shari Belafonte-Harper/Nathan Cook on "Hotel," (Tuesday, June 19, at 9 p.m., ET) on ABC.

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